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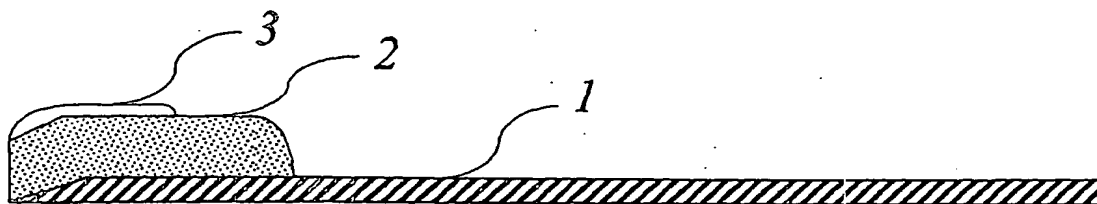
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(54) Title: **COATING BLADE AND METHOD OF PREPARING THE SAME**



(57) Abstract: A coating blade for the application of coating color onto a travelling web, the blade having an edge section with a profile conformed to the surface of the web when in engagement therewith. The coating blade is characterized by a sacrificial layer covering at least the edge section and protecting the underlying edge section during the web loading phase. The invention also relates to a method of preparing a coating blade by applying a film forming solution onto an edge section of the blade, and allowing the solution to dry so as to form a solid film.

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